

Introduction to the Scout Section — Overview



**St Johns Wood
Scout Group**

The Introduction to Scout Section is to be completed when joining the Scout section, either by transitioning from the Cub Scout section or when a Scout joins the Movement.

This will help you:

- Meet other Scouts
- Set goals for what you wish to get out of your time in Scouting

This is the Program Essentials - Introduction to Scout Section. Please talk with your Patrol Leader and your Mentor about what it means to be a Scout and get them to sign off below.

This section is like the Introduction to Scouting and is not a test.

It can be:

- Done at the same time as the Introduction to Scouting
- It can happen over a few weeks; you don't have to do it all at once

We have discussed	Date	Initials
What is the Scout section all about • What is the program		
What is a patrol? • How does the patrol system work?		
What is a Unit Council?		
What can I do in the Scout section? • What are the key activities of this section? • What are the interests of this Unit? • What are you interested in?		
How can being a Scout help develop your leadership skills?		

How are my achievements recorded?		
Who signs off on achievements?		
What does Explore the Unknown mean for Scouts? [Symbolic Framework]		
What the Promise and Law mean to you? How does this shape your behaviour and actions in the Section? How does this shape your behaviour and actions in your life? How is the unit Code connected to the Promise and Law? How does Be Respectful relate to listening and seeking help when needed?		
Discuss trusting your instincts		
What are the behaviour expectations for you and the unit?		
How you seek assistance and support if you feel excluded or targeted in the section?		
What do you want to achieve in Scouts?		
What does Plan>Do>Review look like in the Scout section?		

You will be given your Introduction to the Scout Section badge when you finish this part of the Program Essentials. This is also the time when you will reaffirm your Promise as part of a special ceremony, and you are an equal member of your Scout Unit.

Introduction to the Scout Section — About me!

My Patrol leaders is: -->

My interests are:

In Scouts I want to:

I am looking to achieve (my goals in the Scout section):

In 6 months:

In 12 months:

In 2 years:

Introduction to the Scout Section — Discussion Guide

How does the Scout Section operate?

What is the focus of the Section?

The Scout Section focuses on individuals and small groups exploring many areas of interest and starting to identify and refine their choice of activities, experiences and events. As Scouts, you are trying new things, developing deeper friendships and furthering leadership skill development.

How does the program operate?

The program may operate for the whole Unit, or it may be focused on individual Patrols. No matter which, all Scouts will be involved in the activities of the Unit through either their Patrol or whole Unit adventures. Activities will often occur in patrols, and the tracking and recording of Milestones and achievements is primarily managed through the Patrol. Each Scouting activity might pose a new or different challenge for

each Scout, and it is the involvement and contribution during these times that will guide the achievement and presentation of Milestones.

What is new in the Scout Section?

There is nothing overly new in the Scout section, although this is where the opportunities start to open up for many members. Project or activity patrols become a more significant feature in this section, and the opportunities to travel as part of the Scouting experience increase substantially.

How does the Patrol System work?

The Patrol system is the small teams that the Scout Unit uses to ensure that all members have a great Scouting experience, and can do so with others. Many activities and experiences will occur in small teams, known as Patrols.

What is the role and responsibilities of the Unit Council?

The role of the Unit Council is to oversee the development and review of the sections program and individual progression of each member of the Unit. This is completed using the leadership of the Patrols to inform and aid in the decision making of the unit. The Unit

Council endorses the completion of the Peak Award and the Australian Scout Medallion. The Unit Council is primarily comprised of youth members, but also includes some of the adults who support our Unit on a regular basis.

What opportunities are available to members of the Scout Section?

- What are the key activities of the Section?
- What are the interests of the Unit?
- What are your interests?

How can you develop your leadership skills?

This could occur within activities, in an informal role, or through a formal leadership position, such as a Patrol Leader or Assistant Patrol Leader. Leadership skill development is equally about you understanding where you fit in a team.

How do you get involved in projects?

Expressing interest or suggesting projects are two ways to get involved in projects. You might start by participating with some new friends, and soon discover new interests or lead others in activities or areas of interest to you.

How are the achievements recorded in the Section?

You record your achievements in your Record Book or in the digital system.

Who signs off on achievements?

- Your Patrol Leader Will be able to confirm many of your achievements throughout the section. In the case of the Peak Award, this Will need to be confirmed by your Unit Council.
- In the case of Outdoor Adventure Skills may require a more experienced Scouting member to support you through the stages

What is the symbolic framework of the Section?

What are the key things members need to know about "exploring the unknown"?

- Whilst exploring the unknown, you will work independently with your patrol, building your personal confidence and leadership. This may include creatively finding new ways to problem solve as a patrol. expressing your evolving character and learning about priorities to enable you to pursue your passions and interests. You will connect with the simplicity of nature and the complexities of life. You will be exploring expanding communities both locally and globally and tackling creative, outdoor and personal growth challenges along the way.
- There are many opportunities beyond the Patrol and Unit to explore - attending events is one way of achieving this. These might be local, national or international experiences, some related to Scouting and others not.

What does the Promise and Law mean to you?

How does this shape your behaviour and actions in the section?

How does this shape your behaviour and actions in your life?

Attending Scout activities is initially about:

- Meeting members of the Unit
- Participating in activities
- Finding where you fit, including working with others to become a member of a Patrol

Each year, your Unit will review and develop a Unit Code. As part of your transition, your Mentor or Patrol Leader will work through the Unit Code with you. Additionally, you will discuss:

- How is the Unit Code connected to the Promise and Law?
- Why is it important to look out for each other?
- The behaviour expectations for you and the Unit

This may occur with your whole Patrol or even as a whole Unit and will include your Leaders.

The final elements of the transition process are focused on you. In discussions with your adult Leaders and Patrol Leader, you will think about:

- Where you are in the Achievement Pathways
- What your interests are
- What goals you have for your time in the Unit

These goals may be short term or long term goals, but are important for shaping your initial involvement in the section.